

The award-winning virtuoso partnership of *"one of the UK's greatest guitarists"* (BBC RADIO 2) with *"the doyenne of Irish harpers"* (SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY) has toured in twenty-three countries to venues ranging from the tiniest of village halls and historic European churches to palaces in Kyoto and Istanbul, London's Barbican, Sydney Town Hall and Cologne's Philharmonie; recorded nine CDs; and given TV and radio performances on five continents. Expect a breathtaking blend of traditional Irish music, hot jazz, bluegrass and baroque, spiced with striking new compositions and Chris's "delightfully subversive wit"!

Breaking Bach, Chris's new solo album of his arrangements for steel-strung flatpicked guitar of sonatas and partitas written by JS Bach for solo instruments was released in July 2021. "Audacious and eminently enjoyable" * * * * THE SCOTSMAN "A ground-breaking project... a magnificent tour-de-force... a toweringly-impressive achievement" THE LIVING TRADITION * * * * RnR MAGAZINE "Life-affirming... (Newman's) achievement is colossal... Elegant, stylish and unmistakably from the heart." * * * * FOLK WALES "Dazzling... utterly breathtaking... a triumph."

Máire and Chris appear on the front cover of the April / May 2021 issue of THE LIVING TRADITION magazine, which also features an interview with them.

A TV documentary about Máire and her sister Nollaig (also featuring their sister Mairéad, together with Chris, and Nollaig's late husband Arty McGlynn) was broadcast on TG4 on November 29th, 2020, as part of its *'Sé mo Laoch* series. (TG4 is Ireland's national Irish-language TV station.) It is still available to view on the TG4 Player.

Pre-pandemic, recent headlining festival performances have taken place in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Italy, France, Denmark, Sweden, the UK and Ireland.

Máire Ní Chathasaigh is *"the great innovator of modern Irish harping, a player of outstanding technique and imagination"* (THE ROUGH GUIDE TO IRISH MUSIC) and one of Ireland's most important and influential traditional musicians. As a teenager in the 1970s she invented a whole new "traditional Irish" style of harping that quickly became the norm amongst both her contemporaries and the younger generation of Irish players, thereby spearheading the re-introduction of the harp into the mainstream of the living tradition. She was described by the late Derek Bell as *"the most interesting and original player of the Irish harp today"*. She was the 2001 recipient of Irish music's most prestigious award, Traditional Musician of the Year - Gradam Ceoil TG4 – a national recognition of her pioneering work. *"Her work restores the harp to its true voice."* THE IRISH TIMES

Chris is *"one of the UK's greatest musicians"* (BBC RADIO 2) and *"one of the top guitarists of his ilk in the world"* THE LIVING TRADITION. He has toured and recorded with many luminaries of the folk and jazz worlds, among them Boys of the Lough, Aly Bain and Stéphane Grappelli. *"Dazzling"* ACOUSTIC GUITAR (USA) *"His playing boggles my mind"* FLATPICKING GUITAR MAGAZINE (USA)

"Dazzling virtuosity" THE DAILY TELEGRAPH *"Music of fire and brilliance from the high-wire act in traditional music"* THE IRISH TIMES *"Their blinding technique, sizzling Irish reels and hot jazz improvisation brought an extended standing ovation... Newman has the great gift of being informative and hilarious simultaneously"* THE WEST AUSTRALIAN *"An eclecticism and spirit of adventure that is quite thrilling"* THE TIMES *"Blazing guitar and dancing harp"* DIRTY LINEN (USA) *"Brilliant, innovative harping and guitar-playing of astonishing virtuosity and versatility"* * * * * SONGLINES

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